

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q77896

Tomoyuki MAEDA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/574,573

Group Art Unit: 2627

Confirmation No.: 9288

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: April 4, 2006

For: PERPENDICULAR MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM, MANUFACTURING
METHOD THEREFOR, AND MAGNETIC READ/WRITE APPARATUS USING THE
SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (Office Action issued in Japanese Patent Application 2003-347192 dated June 17, 2008), together with an English-language version of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: The listed JP 2003-217107 corresponds to the listed U.S. 7,183,011 and constitutes a further concise statement of the relevance of JP 2003-217107. The listed JP 2001-291230 corresponds to the listed U.S. 2001/0036564 and constitutes a further concise statement of the relevance of JP 2001-291230.

JP 09-204651-A, JP 2001-351217-A and JP 2002-83411-A were cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 4, 2006 and are not being submitted herewith. The attached Japanese Office Action and its translation constitute a further concise statement of relevance for these documents.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

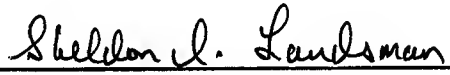
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
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U.S. Appln. No.: 10/574,573

Attorney Docket No.: Q77896

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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